

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-5 (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) A method for inkjet recording comprising:
recording a color image in accordance with recording signals by ejecting from an orifice a black ink and a color ink, wherein the black ink comprises cationic or anionic self-dispersible carbon black and the color ink comprises a substance having an opposite polarity to that of the self-dispersible carbon black, and wherein a black image portion in the color image is formed with the black ink and the color ink, and ~~a time lag between ejecting of the black ink and ejecting of the color ink is 20 ms or less~~ the printed amount of the color ink to form the black image portion is in a range of 10 to 50 % relative to the amount of black ink.

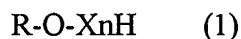
7. (Previously Presented) The method for inkjet recording of claim 6, wherein the self-dispersible carbon black is cationic and the color ink comprises at least an anionic substance.

8. (Previously Presented) The method for inkjet recording of claim 6, wherein the order of ejecting the black ink and ejecting the color ink changes.

9. (Original) The method for inkjet recording of claim 6, wherein the carbon black is contained in an amount of 0.1 to 20 % by mass relative to a total amount of the ink containing the black ink.

10. (Previously Presented) The method for inkjet recording of claim 6, wherein the black ink and/or the color ink contain a surfactant.

11. (Previously Presented) The method for inkjet recording of claim 6, wherein the black ink comprises a compound represented by formula (1):



wherein R is a functional group having 4 to 8 carbon atoms selected from the group consisting of an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, an alkynyl group, a phenyl group, an alkylphenyl group, an

alkenylphenyl group and a cycloalkyl group; X is an oxyethylene group or an oxypropylene group; and n is an integer from 1 to 4.

12. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for inkjet recording for forming a color image comprising:
an ink cartridge for ejecting a black ink and another ink cartridge for ejecting a color ink, wherein the black ink comprises cationic or anionic self-dispersible carbon black and the color ink comprises a substance having an opposite polarity to that of the self-dispersible carbon black, and wherein a black image portion in the color image is formed with the black ink and the color ink, and ~~a time lag between ejecting of the black ink and ejecting of the color ink is 20 ms or less~~ the printed amount of the color ink to form the black image portion is in a range of 10 to 50 % relative to the amount of black ink.

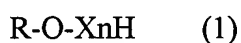
13. (Previously Presented) The apparatus for inkjet recording of claim 12, wherein the self-dispersible carbon black is cationic and the color ink comprises at least an anionic substance.

14. (Previously Presented) The apparatus for inkjet recording of claim 12, wherein recording is carried out by reciprocal scanning of the ink cartridge for ejecting a black ink and the another ink cartridge for ejecting a color ink, and the order of ejecting the black ink and ejecting the color ink changes by the reciprocal scanning.

15. (Previously Presented) The apparatus for inkjet recording of claim 12, wherein the carbon black is contained in an amount of 0.1 to 20% by mass relative to a total amount of the ink containing the black ink.

16. (Previously Presented) The apparatus for inkjet recording of claim 12, wherein the black ink and/or the color ink contain a surfactant.

17. (Previously Presented) The apparatus for inkjet recording of claim 12, wherein the black ink comprises a compound represented by formula (1):



wherein R is a functional group having 4 to 8 carbon atoms selected from the group consisting

of an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, an alkynyl group, a phenyl group, an alkylphenyl group, an alkenylphenyl group and a cycloalkyl group; X is an oxyethylene group or an oxypropylene group; and n is an integer from 1 to 4.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claims 4, 10, or 16, wherein the surfactant is present in an amount of from about 0.001 to 5 % by mass relative to the amount of the black ink and the amount of the color ink, respectively.
19. (New) The method for inkjet recording of claim 6, wherein the amount of one droplet of the black ink expelled is more than zero and less than 20 ng and the amount of one droplet of the color ink expelled is more than zero and less than 7 ng.
20. (New) The apparatus for inkjet recording of claim 12, wherein the amount of one droplet of the black ink expelled is more than zero and less than 20 ng and the amount of one droplet of the color ink expelled is more than zero and less than 7 ng.
21. (New) The method for inkjet recording of claim 6, wherein a time lag between ejecting of the black ink and ejecting of the color ink is more than zero ms and less than 20 ms.
22. (New) The apparatus for inkjet recording of claim 12, wherein a time lag between ejecting of the black ink and ejecting of the color ink is more than zero ms and less than 20 ms.